

# Solo Leveling

Art · DUBU (REDICE STUDIO)

Original Novel · Chugong

Story · h-goon

169

...WHAT  
A GATHERING.

HAA...

PRESIDENTS,  
PRIME MINISTERS,  
GUILD MASTERS, AND  
EVEN THE CHAIRMAN  
OF THE HUNTER'S  
ASSOCIATION...






EVERYONE MUST  
BE FEELING THE  
PRESSURE.

NOW THAT SLUNG  
JINWOO HAS TAKEN  
THE PODIUM,




IT'D BE GREAT IF HE  
COULD TELL EVERYONE  
THAT ALL WILL END WELL  
LIKE LAST TIME.







BUT IF HE  
WERE TO SAY  
THE COMPLETE  
OPPOSITE...



THIS WILL BE  
A DIFFICULT TIME  
FOR ALL OF US.



THIS ISN'T A  
FIGHT THAT CAN  
BE IGNORED BY  
ANYONE.



THEY'LL APPEAR  
BEFORE YOU AND  
REGRET EVERYTHING



DESTROY EVERYTHING  
IN SIGHT.

Y, YOU REALLY  
EXPECT US TO  
BELIEVE THAT?

SURELY THE  
NATIONAL LEVEL  
HUNTERS CAN  
STOP THEM!

THERE WILL BE  
HUNDREDS OF BEASTS THAT  
ARE STRONGER THAN KAMISH,  
THE DRAGON THAT BROUGHT  
THE GREATEST DISASTER IN  
THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD.

SO NO. NOT  
EVEN THE NATIONAL  
LEVEL HUNTERS WILL  
BE ABLE TO STOP  
THEM.





SH, SHOW  
US SOME PROOF!

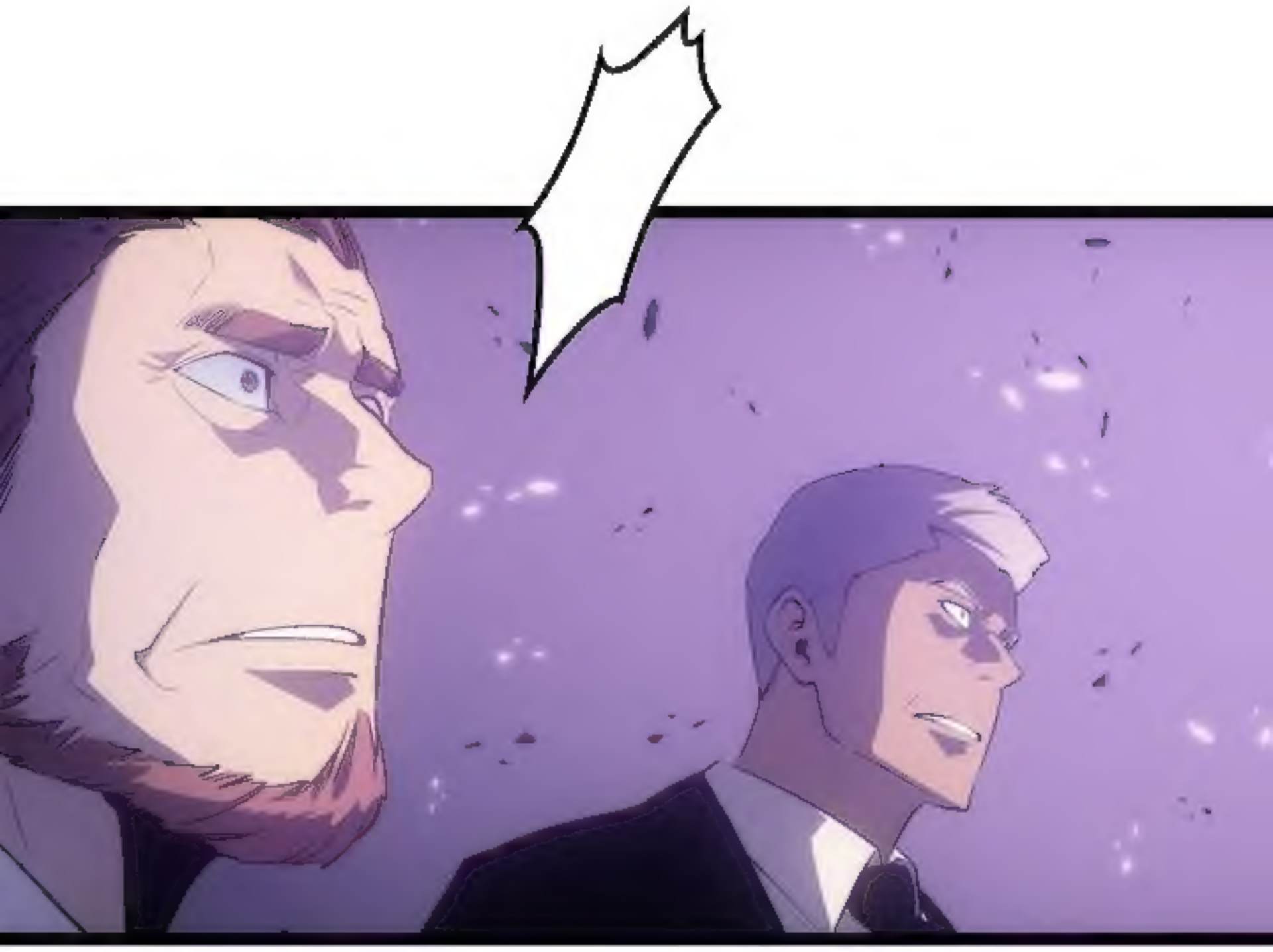
WE WON'T  
BELIEVE A THING  
UNTIL YOU DO!

HUNDREDS OF  
BEASTS AS STRONG  
AS KAMISH, YOU  
SAY?


YOU MUST BE  
OUT OF YOUR  
MIND!

RAISE










H, HOW IS THIS  
POSSIBLE...?

STIR




AREN'T THOSE  
ALL GATES?


MURMUR



SUNG JINWOO  
CAN CREATE  
GATES...?




AND NOT JUST  
ONE, BUT MULTIPLE  
AT THE SAME  
TIME...?



THE ENEMY CAN  
CREATE GATES WHENEVER  
AND WHEREVER THEY WANT,  
JUST LIKE ME.

IT'S JUST TAKING  
THEM A WHILE BECAUSE  
OF THE IMMENSE SIZE  
OF THEIR ARMY.






BUT MR. SUNGI!  
HOW CAN WE BE  
SURE YOU'RE NOT  
ON THEIR SIDE?!

HOW DO WE  
KNOW YOU DIDN'T  
SUMMON THE  
SOLDIERS FROM  
THE FIRST GATE...

...IN ORDER TO KILL US?!



OH, BUT... THAT'S  
NOT TO SAY YOU  
DON'T HAVE MY FULL  
TRUST, OF COURSE.

ALL RIGHT.  
WE KNOW WHAT  
KIND OF BEASTS TO  
EXPECT FROM THE  
GATES NOW.

SO WHAT  
SHOULD WE  
DO ABOUT THIS  
PROBLEM?





YOU SHOULD  
RUN AWAY.

PLEASE GET AS  
FAR AWAY FROM  
THE GATES AS  
YOU CAN.





JINWOO'S  
WARNING CREATED  
A MASSIVE RIPPLE  
EFFECT.

"RUN AWAY!"

AFTER HEARING  
THAT HUMANITY WOULD  
NOT BE ABLE TO HANDLE  
THE SHEER NUMBER OF  
BEASTS,

EVERYONE GOT SCARED  
AND SCRAMBLED TO GET  
AS FAR AWAY FROM THE  
GATES AS POSSIBLE.





GET OVER  
HERE, BERU.





YOU CALL THIS  
A "SMALL HOUSE"?

NEVER MIND  
THE SIZE. CAN THIS  
EVEN BE CALLED  
A HOUSE?



I THOUGHT  
WE SHOULD AT  
LEAST PREPARE THIS  
MUCH FOR YOU,  
MY KING...

AND WHY THE  
HELL DID YOU PUT  
UP THAT FLAG?







OH... SO THAT  
WAS YOUR IDEA,  
HUH?

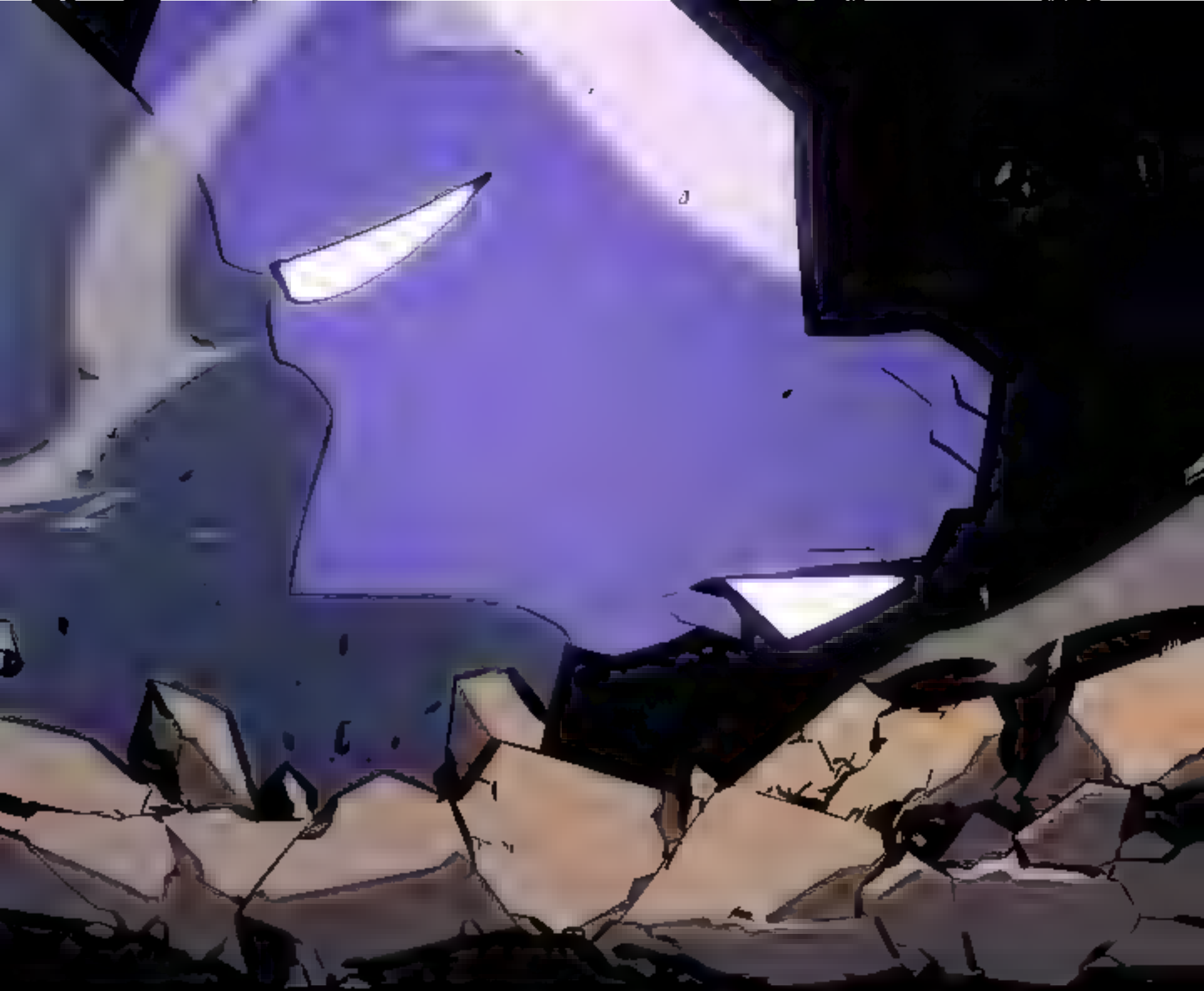
BELLION. WHAT  
HAPPENS TO AN  
ARMY THAT LOSES  
THEIR MONARCH?

SINCE YOU'RE THE  
GRAND MARSHAL,  
WOULD YOU TAKE  
OVER IF I DIED?

OUR LIVES ARE  
IN YOUR HANDS,  
MY KING.

IF YOU WERE TO  
PASS, WE TOO  
WOULD RETURN TO  
NOTHINGNESS.





THE GREATEST  
STRENGTH OF  
THE SHADOW  
ARMY...

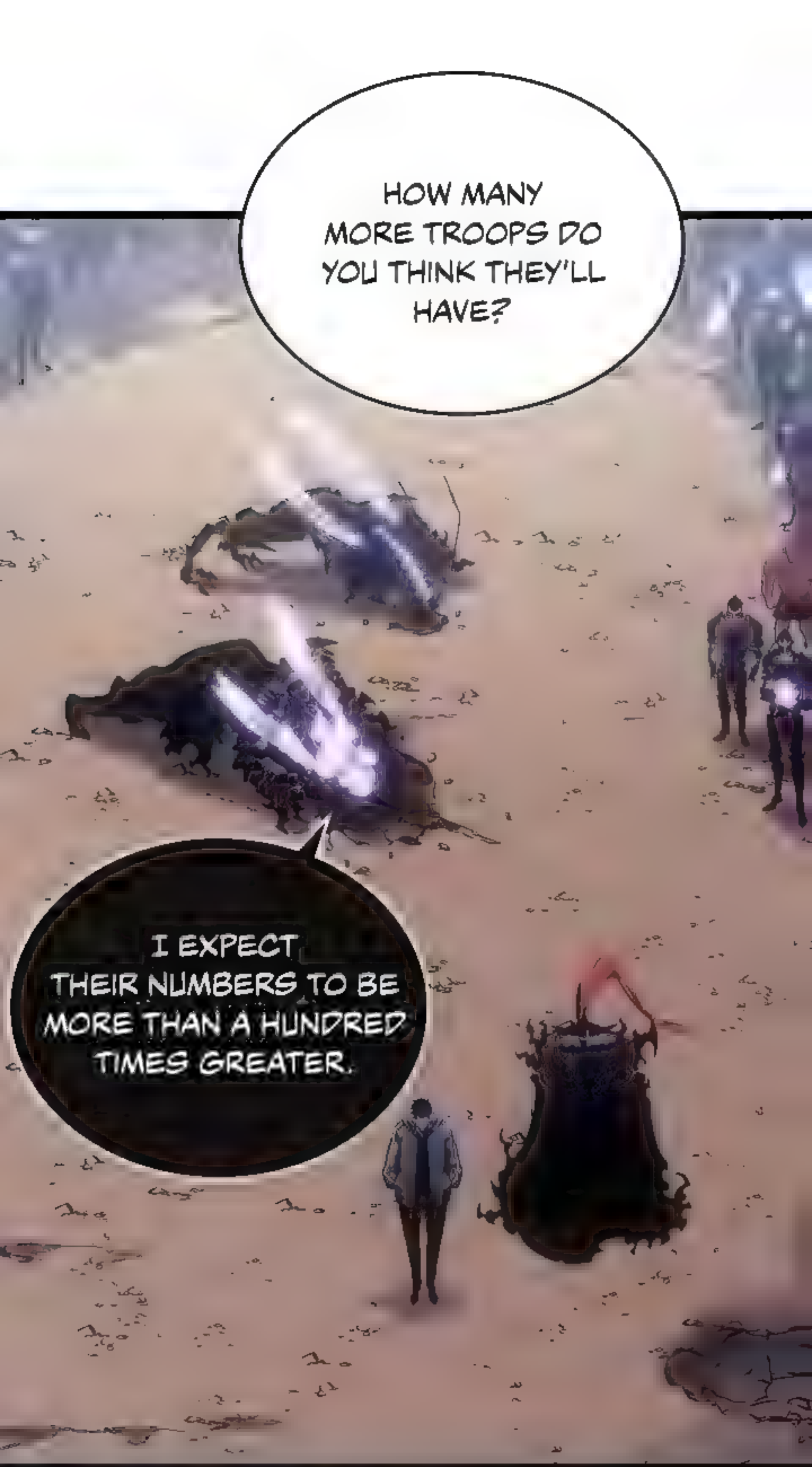
...IS THEIR LOYALTY,  
WHICH MAKES THEM PUT  
THEIR MASTER'S ORDERS  
BEFORE THEIR OWN LIVES.

BUT THEIR  
STRENGTHS AND  
WEAKNESSES ARE  
LIKE TWO SIDES OF  
THE SAME COIN.

AND THE ENEMY WILL  
DEFINITELY TRY TO  
USE THAT TO THEIR  
ADVANTAGE.


WE WON'T STAND A  
CHANCE IN AN ALL-OUT  
WAR, MY KING.





HOW MANY  
MORE TROOPS DO  
YOU THINK THEY'LL  
HAVE?

I EXPECT  
THEIR NUMBERS TO BE  
MORE THAN A HUNDRED  
TIMES GREATER.



SO THAT MEANS  
THEY'LL HAVE AT  
LEAST 10 MILLION  
SOLDIERS...






"BULLSH\*T."

THAT'S WHAT  
I'D SAY TO SUNG  
JINWOO IF I COULD  
CALL HIM UP RIGHT  
NOW.

CANADIAN  
S-RANK HUNTER  
JAY MILLS



EVEN SO,  
MR. SUNG IS ONE  
OF THE STRONGEST  
HUNTERS IN THE  
WORLD.

I DON'T THINK WE  
CAN JUST IGNORE  
HIS WARNING...

JUST BECAUSE  
HE'S A SKILLED HUNTER  
DOESN'T MEAN WE  
SHOULD BELIEVE  
EVERYTHING THAT COMES  
OUT OF HIS MOUTH.



**SUNG JINWOO. NO MATTER  
WHAT SORT OF NONSENSE  
YOU TRY TO SCARE US  
WITH, YOU WON'T GET ALL  
THE GATES TO YOURSELF.**

**YOU HAVEN'T  
SCARED ME  
ONE BIT.**

**BEEP**

THE HUNTERS  
IN CANADA HAVE  
STARTED RALLYING  
AROUND JAY MILLS.


IN ADDITION, SOME NATIONS  
THAT ARE KNOWN TO HAVE  
STRONG HUNTERS, LIKE INDIA,  
ALSO SEEM TO BE PREPARING  
FOR THEIR OWN RAIDS.

WHAT ARE YOU  
GOING TO DO NOW,  
MR. SUNG?

FOR  
STARTERS,

I'M GOING  
TO CHINA.






IT'S IMPOSSIBLE  
FOR ME TO FACE  
ALL EIGHT ARMIES  
AT ONCE.

SO I HAVE TO GET  
RID OF THE CLOSEST  
THREAT TO KOREA FIRST,  
IN ORDER TO PROTECT  
MY FAMILY.

I'LL DEAL  
WITH THE OTHER  
MONARCHS AFTER  
THAT.

THE LONGER  
THIS WAR DRAGS  
ON, THE HIGHER OUR  
CHANCES OF WINNING  
WILL BE.











I WAS TOLD THAT THE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WOULD COME TO GREET ME, BUT I WASN'T EXPECTING TO SEE YOU HERE, MR. LIU ZHIGANG.


I SAW THEM MAKING RIDICULOUS PLACARDS, SO I DECIDED TO COME ESCORT YOU MYSELF.



THIS WAY.


SO YOU CAN EVEN SEE IT FROM THE AIRPORT.





YES. THAT IS  
THE COLOSSAL GATE  
THAT APPEARED  
RECENTLY.

A wide-angle shot of a modern building with large glass windows. Two women in red coats stand on a balcony in the center. The foreground is dominated by a large, dark, jagged rock formation.



AND THESE  
ARE...

A close-up of a woman with dark hair, looking down with a slight smile. She is wearing a dark blue jacket. A speech bubble is positioned above her head.






...100,000 OF  
CHINA'S STRONGEST  
HUNTERS.






100,000?  
WITH THIS MANY  
HUNTERS, WE JUST  
MIGHT STAND A  
CHANCE...

A close-up of two men. The man on the left has dark hair and is wearing a dark blue jacket. The man on the right has dark hair with a side part and is wearing a red jacket with a black collar. They are both looking towards the right.



NOT ONLY DO WE  
HAVE THE NUMBERS,  
BUT THEY'RE ALL ELITE  
HUNTERS WHO ARE  
HIGHLY SKILLED.

The same two men from the previous panel are shown in a similar pose, looking towards the right.



LOOKS LIKE  
THINGS ARE ABOUT  
TO BEGIN.

The same two men are shown in a similar pose, looking towards the right.



COME  
FORTH.

The same two men are shown in a similar pose, looking towards the right.









TH, THIS IS ON  
A WHOLE OTHER  
LEVEL.

WE'RE GOING TO BE  
ATTACKED BY AN  
ARMY OF BEASTS  
LIKE THAT? HERE?

NO WAY...

ARE THEY ALL  
YOUR BEASTS,  
MR. SUNG?






THE SPOT TO  
THE KING'S LEFT  
IS MINE! HOW  
DARE YOU STAND  
THERE?!



RELAX. HE'S  
ON OUR SIDE.



SO YOU'RE ABLE  
TO COMMUNICATE  
WITH THEM AS  
WELL...?



IT, IT'S  
OPENING!!

SHATTER





AND SO  
IT BEGINS.





HOW STRANGE.

I DON'T SENSE  
ANYONE'S  
PRESENCE.

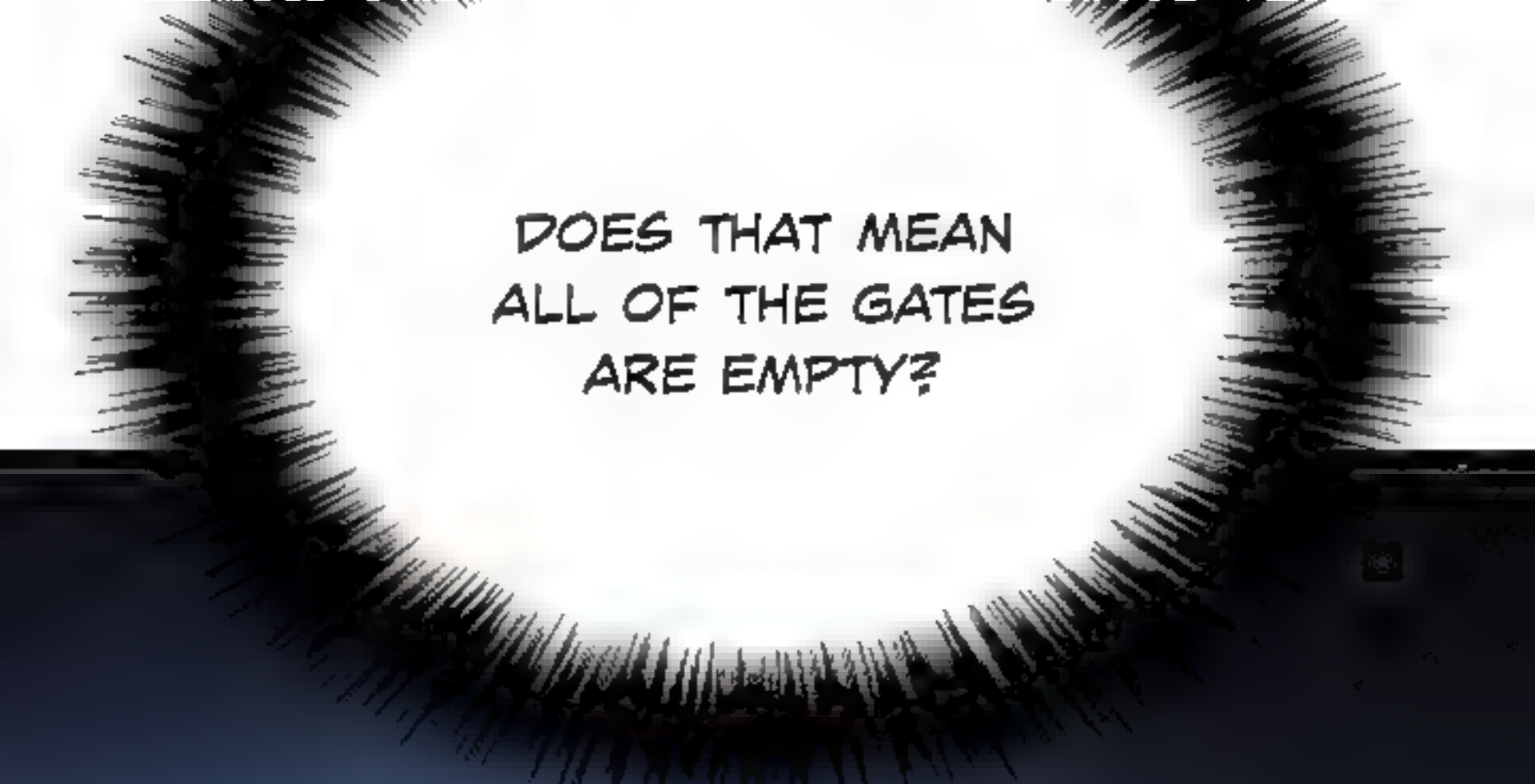
WHAT?

COULD IT  
BE...?!

WHAT ABOUT  
THE OTHER  
GATES?

BASED ON WHAT  
I'M HEARING FROM  
THE OTHER SOLDIERS,  
THE SITUATION IS THE  
SAME EVERYWHERE  
ELSE.






DOES THAT MEAN  
ALL OF THE GATES  
ARE EMPTY?



WAIT...  
I WAS WRONG.

FWIP



I THOUGHT  
THE MONARCHS SPLIT UP  
THEIR ARMIES TO SEND  
THROUGH THE GATES  
THEY SCATTERED ACROSS  
THE GLOBE...






...BUT THEY MUST'VE  
SENT ALL THEIR FORCES  
TO THE GATE FURTHEST  
AWAY FROM ME!







TO THINK  
EVERYONE'S  
BETTING ALL THEIR  
CHIPS ON SUNG  
JINWOO...

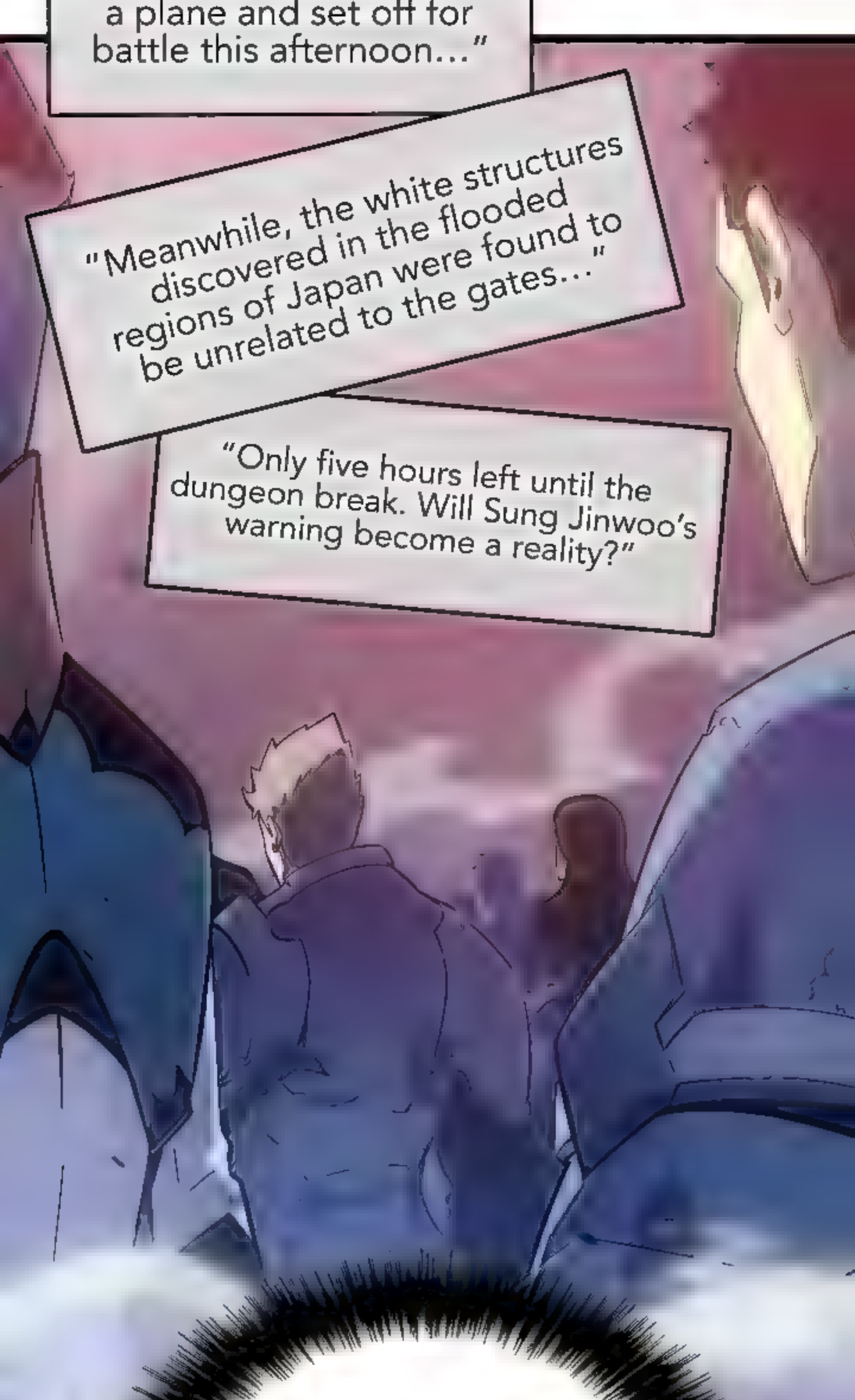
[Sung Jinwoo Heads to China!]

"Japan and Russia have also  
decided to support Sung Jinwoo..."

"The hunters will board  
a plane and set off for  
battle this afternoon..."

"Meanwhile, the white structures  
discovered in the flooded  
regions of Japan were found to  
be unrelated to the gates..."

"Only five hours left until the  
dungeon break. Will Sung Jinwoo's  
warning become a reality?"



WE STOOD OUR  
GROUND WHEN  
EVERYONE ELSE WAS  
LOOKING TO SUNG  
JINWOO FOR HELP.



WE WILL NOT GIVE  
UP ON CANADA!

We won't  
run away!

OUR HUNTERS  
WILL PROTECT US  
AND THIS LAND!

WE'LL WIN NO  
MATTER WHAT  
KIND OF BEASTS  
COME OUT OF  
THAT GATE!

SWATTER





ALL RIGHT.  
HERE WE GO!



...





WHAT THE  
HECK?

DIDN'T SUNG JINWOO  
SAY BEASTS WOULD  
COME POURING OUT  
OF THE GATES?

WAS HE  
JUST BLUFFING?





I ONLY SEE  
ONE BEAST.



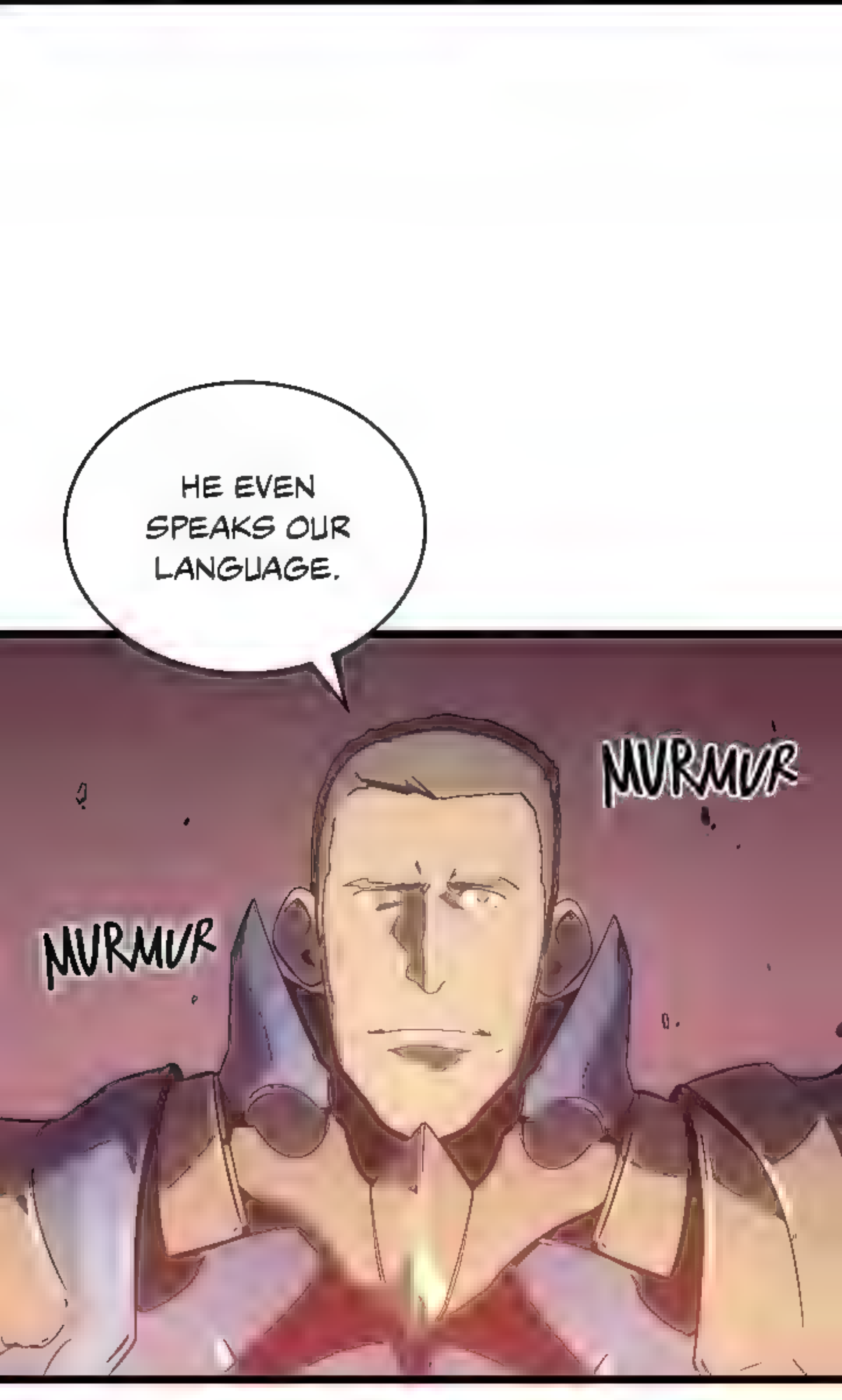


WAIT.

ISN'T THAT  
JUST A HUMAN?  
WHAT THE HELL?











THAT'S NOT  
SURPRISING.

BEASTS ARE  
CAPABLE OF MAKING THEIR  
OWN ARMOR, USING THE  
RUNIC ALPHABET, AND  
ESTABLISHING SOCIETIES  
BASED ON CLASS SYSTEMS.

IN OTHER WORDS,  
THEY CAN BE JUST  
AS INTELLIGENT AS  
HUMANS.

THEY SIMPLY  
DIDN'T TRY TO  
COMMUNICATE WITH  
US UNTIL NOW.

SO A BEAST  
LEARNING A HUMAN  
LANGUAGE TO  
TALK TO US ISN'T  
STRANGE AT ALL.

SO BEASTS AND  
HUMANS CAN  
COMMUNICATE WITH  
EACH OTHER...?

HA, OF COURSE!  
I KNEW IT!!



SO THIS IS  
HOW SUNG JINWOO  
WAS ABLE TO RECRUIT  
THE SOLDIERS FROM  
THE FIRST GATE.

HE MUST'VE  
COMMUNICATED  
WITH THEM  
LIKE THIS.

WILL THIS BEAST  
START OBEYING MY  
ORDERS IF I SAY I'M  
THE KING? IS THAT  
HOW THIS WORKS?

AND WHAT  
IF I AM THE  
KING?





LOOKS LIKE  
HE'S NOT HERE.








IS THERE NO WAY  
TO CHECK WHAT'S  
GOING ON IN  
CANADA?

JUST A MOMENT,  
MR. SUNG.



OH, THAT'S RIGHT.  
I CAN CONTACT ADAM  
WHITE FROM THE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF  
HUNTERS...!

YES,  
MR. SUNG!

ADAM. CAN YOU TELL  
ME WHAT'S HAPPENING  
WITH THE COLOSSAL  
GATE IN CANA-





**WAIT... WHERE  
ARE YOU RIGHT  
NOW?**




**I'M NEAR CANADA'S  
COLOSSAL GATE WITH  
THE OTHER AGENTS.  
WE'RE HERE TO  
PROVIDE BACKUP.**




**WHY THE HELL ARE  
YOU OVER THERE?!**



A man with short brown hair, wearing a dark suit and tie, is shown from the chest up. He is holding a black mobile phone to his ear with his right hand. In the background, another person's face is partially visible, looking on with a concerned expression. The scene is set in a dimly lit room with some architectural details visible.

AS A NEIGHBORING  
COUNTRY, WE COULDN'T  
JUST STAND BY AND  
WATCH THINGS GO  
DOWN IN CANADA...

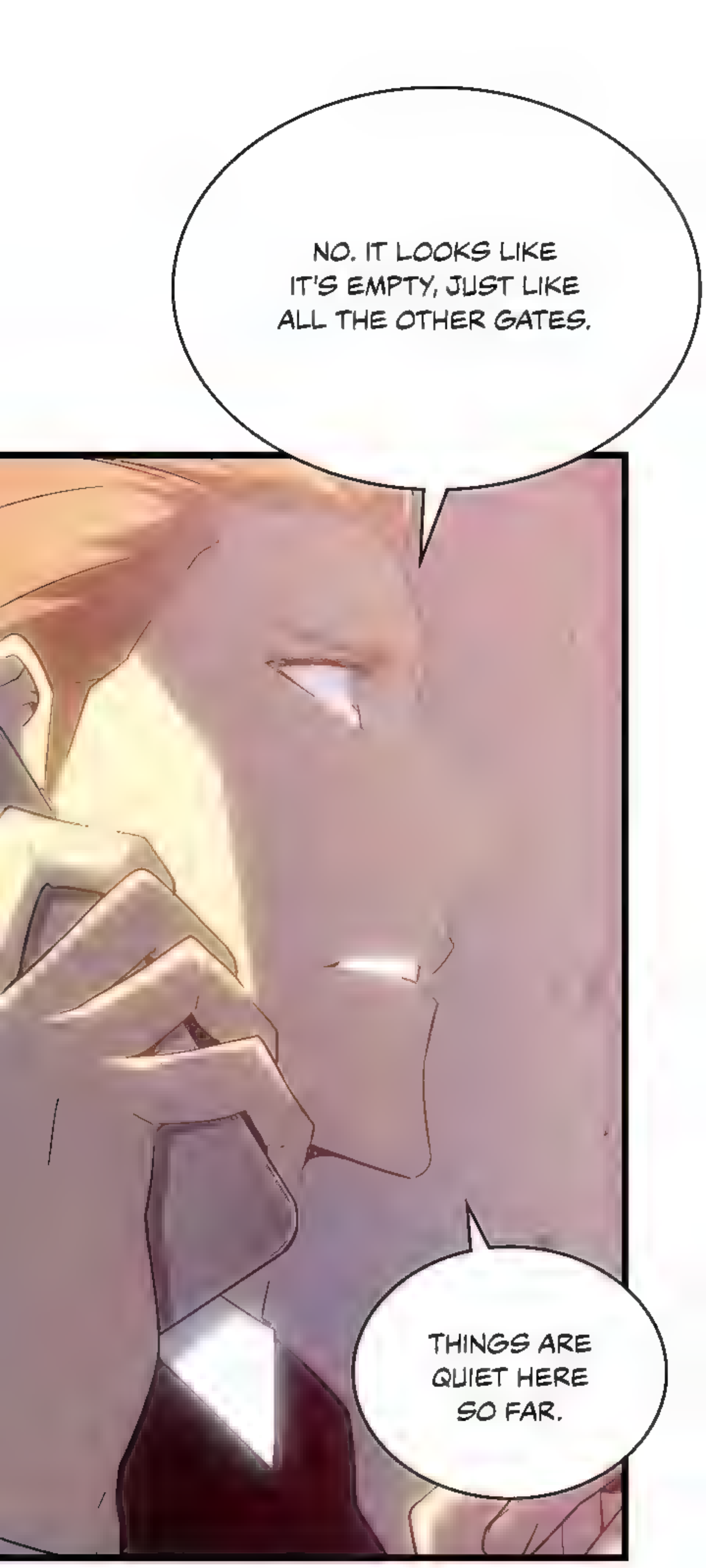
MANY OTHER AGENTS  
FROM THE BUREAU WERE  
DISPATCHED HERE  
AS WELL.

A close-up shot of a man with dark, slightly messy hair. He has a frustrated or exasperated expression on his face, with his mouth slightly open. His hand is visible near his chin, with fingers slightly curled. The background is dark and out of focus.

DAMN IT...  
THEY STILL DON'T  
UNDERSTAND WHAT  
WE'RE UP AGAINST.

HAS ANYTHING  
HAPPENED AT THE  
GATE?





NO. IT LOOKS LIKE  
IT'S EMPTY, JUST LIKE  
ALL THE OTHER GATES.

THINGS ARE  
QUIET HERE  
SO FAR.



PHEW. THANK  
GOODNESS.

HUH?  
HOLD ON...

SOMETHING JUST  
CAME OUT OF THE  
GATE!



IS THAT... A HUMAN?

A HUMAN JUST  
CAME OUT OF  
THE GATE!

A... HUMAN?

**ADAM!**  
**RUN AWAY!!**

**GET IN A CAR!**  
**DO WHATEVER IT TAKES**  
**TO GET OUT OF THERE**  
**AS FAST AS YOU CAN!**





**THE HUNTERS...**



**THE TOP-LEVEL  
HUNTERS WHO WERE  
STANDING AT THE  
FRONT HAVE JUST  
TURNED INTO ASHES!**

**ADAM! YOU  
STILL HAVE  
TIME TO RUN  
AWAY!!**



**GET OUT OF  
THERE, NOW!**

**TH, THERE ARE  
COUNTLESS DRAGONS  
AND OTHER BEASTS  
DESCENDING FROM  
THE SKY!**

**ALL SORTS OF  
BEASTS ARE  
POURING OUT OF  
THE GATE. HOW IS  
THIS POSSIBLE...?!**

**THE ONLY THING  
I CAN DO NOW...  
IS SAVE ADAM.**

**IF I CAN JUST  
CONTROL THE  
SHADOW I PLANTED  
ON HIM...!**







WHERE DO YOU  
THINK YOU'RE GOING,  
SHADOW?



MR. SUNG,  
I...

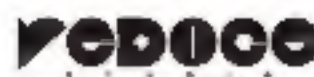




To Be Continued...

# Solo Leveling





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